

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL FORM	Application Number	09/678579
	Filing Date	October 3, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Japuntich, Daniel A.
	Art Unit	3743
	Examiner Name	Aaron J. Lewis
Fax: 703-872-9306	Attorney Docket Number	48317US027
Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 23		
Date: April 7, 2005	Attorney for Applicant: Karl G. Hanson	

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Technology Center (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
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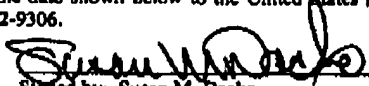
Patent
Case No.: 48317US027

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: JAPUNTICH, DANIEL A.
Application No.: 09/678579 Group Art Unit: 3743
Filed: October 3, 2000 Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis
Title: FIBROUS FILTRATION FACE MASK HAVING A NEW
UNIDIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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April 7, 2005 Date	 Signed by: Susan M. Decko

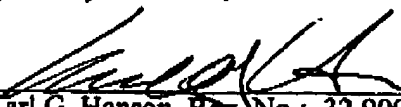
Dear Sir:

In accordance with the continuing duty of candor and good faith that is to be demonstrated before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, applicants submit copies of Answers in the civil litigation between the 3M Company and the 3M Innovative Properties Company ("3M") and Moldex-Metric, Inc. and the Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc. In both lawsuits, the defendants, Moldex-Metric, Inc. and the Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc. have filed Answers to the Complaints filed by 3M. In so doing, Moldex has filed counter-claims for a declaratory judgment of noninfringement and invalidity of U.S. Patent RE 37,974 to Bowers and U.S. Patent 6,843,248 to Japuntich et al. Moldex contends that each of these patents are invalid under 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103. Moldex also asserts that both patents are invalid for "containing a specification and claims which do not meet one or more of the requirements of 35 USC § 112, i.e., written description, enablement, best mode, and definiteness."

The Louis M. Gerson Company also asserts that the claims of the '974 patent are invalid under 35 USC § 101, 35 USC § 112, and/or § 251 and under 35 USC §§ 102 and 103.

Please contact applicants' attorney if the Examiner desires more information regarding the defenses raised by each of the defendants.

Respectfully submitted,

April 7, 2005
DateBy: 
Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900
Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (modified) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Page 1 of 1	Application Number	09/678579
	Filing Date	October 3, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Japuntich, Daniel A.
	Art Unit	3743
	Examiner Name	Aaron J. Lewis
	Attorney Case Number	48317US027

U.S. Patent Documents					
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date or Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Doc. Number-(Kind Code if Known)			
	A1	US-			
	A2	US-			
	A3	US-			
	A4	US-			
	A5	US-			
	A6	US-			
	A7	US-			
	A8	US-			

Foreign Patent Documents							
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation (Check if yes)
		Ctry. Code	Number-KindCode (if known)				
	B1						
	B2						
	B3						
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OTHER DOCUMENTS			
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	Translation (Check if yes)
	C1	Moldex's Answer to Second Amended Complaint and Counterclaims (3M Company and 3M Innovative Properties Company v. Moldex-Metric, Inc., Civil Action No. 03-5292 MJD/JGL, United States District Court for the District of Minnesota)	
	C2	Louis M. Gerson Company, Inc.'s Answer and Counterclaims to Plaintiffs' Amended Complaint (3M Innovative Properties Company and 3M Company v. Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc., Civil No. 05-CV-26 (MJD/JGL), United States District Court for the District of Minnesota)	
	C3		

*Examiner:	Date Considered:
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